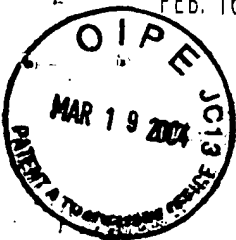


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NO. 760

P. 6



Atty. Docket No. 073345-0201

Handwritten: #5, 3-30-04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Daniel Schoch et al

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS
FOR INITIALIZING
INTEGRATED CIRCUIT
ADDRESSES

Appl. No.: 09/876,301

Filing Date: 06/06/2001

Examiner: Huynh, Kim T

Art Unit: 2189

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned, Daniel Schoch, Wim F. Cops and Naser Adas, hereby each declare and state as follows:

1. The purpose of this Declaration is to establish completion of the invention of the above-referenced U.S. patent application in the United States at a date prior to March 21, 2001, which is the earliest priority date relied upon by U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/957,347 (Publication No. US 2003/0023908), titled "System For And Method Of Interfacing Expansion Modules With Programmable Logic Controllers (PLC)," which was cited in the Office Action dated November 19, 2003, for the above-referenced patent application.

2. The undersigned are the only inventors named in the above-referenced application.

3. To establish the date of completion of the invention of this application, the following attached documents are submitted as evidence:

- a. A letter dated prior to March 21, 2001 (date redacted), to the inventors from Ted Rittmaster of the law firm of Foley & Lardner, forwarding a copy of a draft patent application for review (Exhibit 1); and
- b. A copy of the draft patent application titled "Apparatus and Methods For Initializing Integrated Circuit Addresses" that was enclosed with the above-noted letter from Ted Rittmaster (Exhibit 2).

4. The letter (Exhibit 1) referenced in paragraph 3a has dates that have been redacted for the public record. However, the redacted dates are prior to March 21, 2001. The draft application (Exhibit 2) referenced in paragraph 3b above is a copy of the application that is described in and that was enclosed with the letter referenced in paragraph 3a above. The draft application includes a specification and claims that are similar to the specification and claims of our presently pending application.


5. From the above-referenced, attached documents, it can be seen that the invention of this application was made in the United States prior to March 21, 2001, which is the earliest priority date of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/957,347 (Publication No. US 2003/0023908).

6. The present application was diligently filed on June 6, 2001, following review and finalization of the draft application by the inventors.

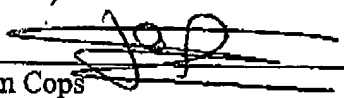
7. This Declaration is submitted prior to any final rejection.

8. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so

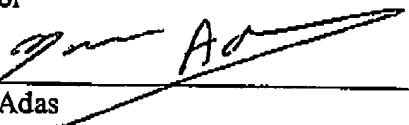
made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued therefrom.


Daniel Schoch
Inventor

2/16/2004
Date


Wim Cops
Inventor

02/13/04
Date


Naser Adas
Inventor

02/13/04
Date

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